

Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission
City of Jasper, Indiana held February 1, 2005

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, February 1, 2005 at the Jasper Arts Center with Gerald Gagne presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and then roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present:** Doug Abbett, Gloria Buecher, Gerald Gagne, Mike Jones, Sylvia Metzger, Robin Norris, Don Routson, Myra Schuetter, Pat Thyen. **Commission Members Absent:** Ann Hilgefert, Don Weisheit. **Staff Members Present:** Darla Blazey, Barbara Hoffman, Doreen Lechner, Kit Miracle. **Staff Members Absent:** Donna Schepers. **Regional Services Coordinator:** Jill Watson. **Guests in Attendance:** Councilmen: Ambrose Schitter; Thomas Schmidt; City Attorney, Sandy Hemmerlein.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sylvia Metzger moved, **Myra Schuetter** seconded the approval of the minutes of the December 4, 2004 board meeting. Motion passed 9-0. There was no Arts Commission meeting held in January 2005.

City Financial Statement

Don and Darla reported. Budget looks in line for this time of year.

City Claims and Regional Partnership Grant Claims

City Claims in the amount of \$44,258.03 were presented. Regional Partnership Grant claims in the amount of \$1,391.00 were also presented. It was moved by **Don Routson** to accept the claims and financial statement as presented. **Mike Jones** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee comprised of: Doug Abbett, Gloria Buecher and Robin Norris presented the following slate of officers to the Board for consideration: President, Jerry Gagne; Vice-President, Mike Jones and Secretary-Treasurer, Don Routson. There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved by **Robin Norris** to close the nominations. **Doug Abbett** seconded. Motion passed 9-0. **Robin Norris** made the motion to accept the slate of officers as presented. **Doug Abbett** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Visual Arts Report

Kit reported.

- "The All Amish" exhibit was a huge success. There were over 95 pieces in the exhibit. Community interest in the exhibit was tremendous. A number of school groups visited during the month. The artist, Bill Whorral, gave a lecture and slide demonstration on January 9. People attended from Corydon, Cannelton, Shoals, Tell City and Bloomington. Sales from this exhibit were approximately \$2,500.
- The Italian Art Lecture was overwhelming. Most people on the waiting list were able to be accommodated. Participants came from Evansville and Washington.
- Five of eight winter visual arts classes are being held at the satellite space. Three pre-school classes will be held and are at capacity. Classes are being offered for adults and children, during the day and at night. Next round of classes will be offered during the summer as part of ARTventures.
- The new exhibit is by Greig Leach from Virginia. His oil stick paintings are bright and colorful and a contrast to the former Amish exhibit. There are 17 paintings on exhibit from February 2-27, 2005. Leach will conduct a one-day workshop on Saturday, February 26th at the satellite space. It is open to adults through middle-schoolers and the cost is \$35 which will include all materials. A free public reception will be held on Sunday, February 27th from 1-3:00 pm. It is an excellent opportunity to meet the artist in person.

- She and Myra are working on the Greek Art Lecture which will be held on Sunday, February, 13. Ed Maxedon is the guest speaker. He is the curator of art education at the IU Art Museum. IU has the largest university collection of Greek art in the country.
- Ruth Gehlhausen, art teacher at 10th Street School, will again be bringing all her art students out to view the Gallery exhibit during a three-day period this month.
- Kit currently has a national call out for slide portfolios to select an exhibits schedule for 2006. The committee will review these at the end of March.

Education Report

Darla reported for Donna.

- This week students from K-2 will be coming to the Arts Center to see Curious George on Friday, February 8. The performances are part of the pARTners-in-Education program. The performances are at 9:30 am and 1:00 pm. She asked those interested in volunteering for the day to contact Donna.
- Later in the month The New Shanghai Circus-Incredible Acrobats of China will perform as a regional program on Tuesday, February 22. The Acrobats will be performing on the Family Fun Series on Sunday, February 20 at 7 pm. Donna has over 600 students registered for the regional performance from five area schools. Only one show will be performed at 10:00 am.
- She is excited about the partnership with the Kennedy Center. The Arts Commission and the Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools were one of 12 teams of arts organizations and school systems from across the nation selected to participate in the Partners in Education of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC. Team members will attend an Institute in Washington, DC from May 11-14, 2005.

Buildings & Structures Report

Doreen reported.

- She discussed sound system upgrades. She explained that additional monitor lines were needed from the balcony to the stage so that performers on stage could have different mixes and hear different combinations. She asked the board to approve the purchase of an audio snake to allow for more channels for input. The snake currently being used only has 12 inlets. She asked the Board for approval for the purchase of a 300 foot snake (dimensions: 32 x 8 with 32 channels). Quotes were received from: ISC Audio Indianapolis, \$1885 plus \$100 shipping for a total of \$1995; Lakeside Media Group, \$1600 plus \$60 shipping for a total of \$1660; Weir Works, \$4821 plus shipping. After some discussion, it was moved by **Pat Thyen** to purchase the 300 foot snake from Lakeside Media Group for \$1600 plus shipping. **Don Routson** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.
- Other sound system problems were discussed. She will investigate if the problem is in the speakers or sound board. The mix coming from the board is clean. crisp and nice. There are a number of variables-connections, racks, amplifiers, cross overs, etc. to review.
- She also noted that many artists are now requiring the rental of backline equipment in their contracts because of the difficulty in traveling with the equipment and getting in through airline security.

Region 11 Report

Jill reported.

- She reported that the JCAC is working with the Indiana Arts Commission to send a cultural needs assessment survey to constituents in our region. She collected over 1000 e-mail addresses, and an invitation to participate in the survey will be sent soon. She encouraged the Board to participate and tell others to participate as well. A press release will be sent out about the survey, and a link to the survey will be posted on the JCAC website. Responses will be collected through the end of March.
- The grant period has started for the next fiscal year. She will be doing some information and grantwriting sessions around the Region starting this month. One date has been confirmed for February 17 in Crawford County.

Performing Arts Report

Darla reported.

- She and Donna attended the APAP Conference in New York and it was a very good conference. Since then they have met with the Performing Arts Committee to make some recommendations on selections for 2005-06. The intent of the Performing Arts Committee is to bring a slate to the Board in the near future, hopefully at the next meeting.
- A Chapin Family mailing list was passed around to let the members know where people traveled from to see their concert. People are also purchasing tickets for the Lettermen concert from out of state. More requests and inquiries are a result of the JCAC website. New patrons are requesting to be added to the mailing list.

Marketing Report – JCAC Logo

Darla reported.

- The committee is working with Carla Hall, a graphic designer from Dubois County. She and Darla have met preliminary to discuss some ideas for the logo. In February, the marketing committee will meet to review Carla's designs. They will bring recommendations to the Board at the next meeting.

Chalk Walk Report

Darla reported.

- The Chalk Walk Arts Festival is going to be held May 7, and the Chalk Walk committee has been meeting monthly. The JCAC got permission to close down the square so more activities are being planned, including an outside arts market, food vendors, musicians and more hands-on activities. The JCAC received permission to put some streamers up around the square, and the Darla is working with the merchants and other arts groups on the event. Darla will keep the Board apprised of what is happening as far as activities and planning. Registration forms will be given to area schools in late March and will coincide with promotion of the whole event.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Orientation/Job Description

Myra reported.

- Myra presented the Board Member Job Description and JCAC Rules of Procedure. After some discussion, it was moved by **Myra Schuetter** to accept the new Rules of Procedure for the Jasper Community Arts Commission. **Pat Thyen** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.
- **Myra Schuetter** moved that the welcome letter and job description for prospective new Board members be approved. **Don Routson** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Darla reported.

- Barb is retiring on April 29. She asked the Board for approval to begin the hiring process for her replacement. After some discussion, it was moved by **Doug Abbett** to approve starting the hiring process for the Administrative Assistant/Box Office Manager position. **Myra Schuetter** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.
- She reported that three staff members are attending the Spanish class being offered by the City of Jasper for employees. They are Darla, Donna and Kit. Classes are being held at City Hall twice a week for four weeks in February.
- Matrix Integration is renting the Krempp Gallery the day of the Shanghai Circus. They are having their company employee party and reception in the Krempp Gallery. The Mayor granted an executive order to allow them to serve beer and wine from 3:30 to 5:00 pm in the Gallery.
- Tourism Commission called to schedule a tour group visit in August. Plans are being made to accommodate a group of 50 for a catered dinner and entertainment in the Gallery as part of their visit to the area.

Box Office Software

Darla reported.

- She has been investigating box office software programs for the Arts Commission to begin implementing this year. The program will allow for a customized database management system for ticket sales, marketing, volunteers, development and has an online ticket sales component that can be added in the future. Tickets would be printed in house and all data related to clients, customers, patrons and volunteers would be centrally managed. The reporting features captures and disseminates crucial marketing data in minutes. It would greatly improve the efficiency of the box office and database management in general. She talked to Jerry and they thought it might be in the best interest of the Board to have several board members review the software options and make a recommendation to the full board at the March meeting. Jerry, Doug Abbett and Don Routson volunteered to serve on a short term ad hoc committee to recommend the software that best suits the needs of the JCAC. They will meet with Darla in the coming weeks.

Adjournment

Mike Jones made the motion to adjourn the meeting 5:30 pm, **Don Routson** seconded. Motion passed 9-0. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at 4:30 pm.

Gerald Gagne, President

Don Routson, Secretary-Treasurer